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GENERAL

NO. 638

- 1. Suspension of Austrian talks suggested—According to US representative Reber in London, the positions of the four powers with respect to the Austrian treaty are "sinking further into a deep freeze," and the USSR has made it clear that, pending a decision to hold a CFM meeting, it does not intend to change its stand on any of the Austrian issues currently being reviewed. In order to facilitate separation of the Austrian and German questions, Reber proposes that the present negotiations be suspended before agreement is reached on the agenda for a CFM meeting. Reber recommends that a date for resumption of the talks be fixed far enough ahead to allow time for a CFM meeting, thus assuring continuity in the Austrian discussions, regardless of any action on Austria by the CFM.
- 2. Department favors new plan to internationalize Jerusalem—The Department of State has informed the US member of the Palestine Conciliation Commission (PCC) that it approves the plan for internationalizing Jerusalem prepared by the PCC Secretariat. This plan provides for: (a) an international authority exercising actual governing power only over the Holy Places, reserving all other powers to the Jewish and Arab authorities in their respective zones; (b) demilitarization of the area; (c) an administrative council, composed of Arabs, Jews, and neutrals, responsible for matters of common concern to both zones; and (d) an international tribunal with jurisdiction over disputes regarding the competence of organs and courts within the area.

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